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5 April 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Prebriefing of William Woodruff, Counsel, Senate Appropriations Committee, on the CIA Budget

1. Bill Woodruff visited Headquarters this morning for a prebriefing session on the Agency budget. Ralph Preston, House Appropriations Committee staff, had planned to be present but had to cancel at the last minute because of illness. Agency officers present were: Messrs. Colby, [REDACTED] Maury, [REDACTED] Briggs, [REDACTED]

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2. Some of the more important points brought up during the briefing were:

a. Woodruff asked us to check on the Director's availability early next week for briefings in accordance with the following tentative schedule:

(1) Monday, 10 April, 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Helms-- intelligence community.

(2) Tuesday, 11 April, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Helms and Colby--CIA budget.

(3) Wednesday and Thursday, 12 and 13 April, Dr. Hall-- DIA and NSA.

(4) Friday, 14 April--NRO.

Later in the morning we confirmed the Director's availability on Monday and Tuesday.

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c. Woodruff again expressed his strong feeling that in some form there should be an acknowledgment of the total CIA budget figure. He would prefer to see it as a statement in the Committee report on [REDACTED] but it could be handled as a statement by the Chairman to the full Appropriations Committee. He said he could not guarantee that this would not eventually lead to an erosion of the secrecy of CIA budget details but he feels the members of the CIA Subcommittee can hold the line for at least the next ten years. He said of course the Committee would not do this unless the Agency agreed but he feels that in the present climate in the Senate some such arrangement must be made in the near future. He said in the final analysis members of the Senate feel they have a right to pass judgment on the total Agency budget figure.

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d. Woodruff reiterated a prior statement that he expects the Committee will [REDACTED] He said, almost apologetically, that they would be forced to cut the Agency budget but they would hold the cut to somewhere in the neighborhood of [REDACTED] He added that whether we knew it or not Senator Ellender was a real friend of the Agency, largely because he has confidence in Dick Helms.

e. When Mr. Maury mentioned that the Director felt strongly about avoiding any cut in the [REDACTED] Woodruff said he thought [REDACTED] we had nothing to fear on this score because Ellender has somewhat of a parental interest in this program himself. He said he was not sure whether it was Carl Duckett's briefing or what but something really sold the Chairman on [REDACTED] He recalled the letter which the Senator sent to Helms and Packard on the subject which, as Woodruff put it, told them he didn't care which choice they made between the two programs as long as it was in favor of the [REDACTED] Mr. Briggs commented that perhaps we should change the name of [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]

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f. At a luncheon conversation after our meeting we raised with Woodruff the question of the "annuity" of funds, i.e., whether the [REDACTED]

Deputy Legislative Counsel

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Remarks:

1. Bill: Unless you have already covered these points with the Director, I thought he might be interested in paragraphs 2.b., c., d., and e., which I have marked in [redacted] memo of our discussion with Woodruff last week.

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STATINTL

John M. Maury
Legislative Counsel

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